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The University of Dayton

News Release

UD RANKS AMONG NATION'S BEST UNIVERSITIES, ACCORDING TO U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

DAYTON, Ohio, Oct. 6, 1989--The University of Dayton ranks among the best regional colleges and universities in the country, according to the latest U.S. News & World Report special report on "America's Best Colleges" in the magazine's Oct. 16 issue. The issue will be available on newsstands Monday, Oct. 9.

U.S. News divided the nation's 562 regional colleges and universities into four geographical regions--North, South, Midwest and West--and ranked the top 15 schools in each category. UD ranks 12th among the Midwest's 132 four-year schools. UD's highest marks came in the areas of academic reputation (number 7) and retention patterns (number 8).

"For the University of Dayton to be one of the Midwest's best private universities and an outstanding Catholic university, excellence in teaching, scholarship and research must be an essential commitment and the foundation upon which we build all other commitments," said UD President Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M. "I think this latest national ranking reflects our deep commitment to academic excellence."

In interviews with dozens of authorities, from high school guidance counselors to Ivy League administrators, U.S. News learned that most experts agree on the key ingredients of academic excellence:

- * A strong faculty that is both dedicated to classroom teaching and is readily accessible to students.
- * A student body composed of bright, inquisitive and energetic scholars, who are genuinely interested in learning.

-more-

* An administration that provides the necessary financial support and institutional leadership.

Besides a college or university's reputation for academic excellence, four other areas were considered in the ranking: 1) quality of the student body as measured by each school's selectivity; 2) faculty quality; 3) financial resources; and 4) ability to retain and graduate students. Of these, a school's selectivity, reputation for academic excellence and faculty quality weighed most heavily in the overall ranking. In all but reputation for academic excellence, U.S. News used objective statistical measures to quantify the schools' performance. To determine the strength of academic reputation, U.S. News sought the opinions of college presidents, deans of academic affairs and deans of admission.

The magazine gave Illinois Wesleyan University the highest ranking in the Midwest. In Ohio, John Carroll University (10) and Capital University (15) made the top 15.

The University of Dayton is also featured in the newly published The Fiske Guide to Colleges 1990, edited by Edward B. Fiske, education writer for The New York Times. The guide highlights 300 of the "best and most interesting institutions in the nation."

Approximately 11,000 undergraduate and graduate students currently attend UD, which is Ohio's largest independent university and the nation's eighth largest Catholic university.